

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Eric Newland, Area Management Biologist  
Breena Apgar-Kurtz, Asst. Area Management Biologist  
Lower Yukon Area Office  
P.O. Box 127  
Emmonak, AK 99581  
Phone: (907) 949-1320  
Fax: (907) 949-1830  
Subsistence Fishing Schedule:  
(866) 479-7387 (toll free), or  
in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387

U.S. Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Federal Subsistence Board  
Geoffrey L. Haskett, Regional Director  
Kathleen O'Reilly-Doyle, Acting  
Asst. Regional Director Subsistence  
Fred Bue, Yukon Area Inseason Manager  
Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife Field Office  
101 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rm 110  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Phone: (907) 455-1849 or 1-800-267-3997  
Fax (907) 455-1853

Date Issued: July 12, 2013

#### **2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #59**

#### **Summer Announcement #54, District 4 Subsistence Fishing Schedule**

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 113,000 Chinook salmon through July 11 is well below the historical average of 139,000 for this date. Based on the assessment information to date, the current projection is for a total run size slightly better than the poor run of 2012. Additional measures have been taken in Districts 1-3 to conserve Chinook salmon for escapement and are being similarly implemented in District 4 and further upriver based on migratory timing.

**Subdistrict 4-A** (from  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles downstream of Old Paradise Village upstream to Cone Point, which includes the mainstem Yukon River communities of Anvik and Grayling Kaltag, Nulato, and Koyukuk):

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistrict 4-A is currently closed. The 48-hour subsistence salmon fishing period scheduled to begin 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 14, will be reduced to a 24-hour subsistence salmon fishing period. Fishermen in Subdistrict 4-A may use drift gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size for the duration of this reduced subsistence salmon fishing period.

Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 14, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15. Gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

The use of subsistence drift gillnets is being extended through the duration of this period. So once again, fishermen in Subdistrict 4-A may use drift gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size during this reduced subsistence salmon fishing period, from 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 14, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15.

**Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C** (from Cone Point to Illinois Creek, which includes the mainstem Yukon River communities of Galena and Ruby):

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C is currently closed. The 48-hour subsistence salmon fishing period scheduled to begin 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 14, will be reduced to a 24-hour subsistence salmon fishing period.

Subsistence salmon fishing will be open from 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 14, until 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15. Gillnets are restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and fish wheels must be equipped with a chute or a live box. Fish wheels must be closely attended while in operation and all Chinook salmon caught in fish wheels must be returned to the water alive.

The department will notify fishermen by July 16 concerning the subsistence salmon fishing schedule in District 4.

**Koyukuk River:** Subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to conserve Chinook salmon.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or in Fairbanks call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Fairbanks at 459-7274 or in Emmonak at 949-1320. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service can be contacted in Fairbanks at 456-0418.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

-end-